

## Merry Christmas



May Christmas ring  
out with the spirit of  
peace. May it be rich  
in joy and brotherhood  
for all mankind.

THE MAJORITY OF ALL  
MERKEL MERCHANTS  
WILL BE CLOSED  
MONDAY,  
DECEMBER 26th  
IN OBSERVANCE  
OF CHRISTMAS



1st PLACE '600 GOLD STAR GIVEAWAY WINNERS

Mae and Less Thaxton proudly display their \$600 in gift certificates presented to them Tuesday. Other winners were: Maxine McDaniel- \$400 and Dee Mendoza-\$200.

### Merkel Livestock Show December 31st

The Merkel Livestock Show will be held Saturday, December 31st at 11:00 a.m. All stock will be in the pens on December 30th, excluding steers. Approximately 120 head will be shown, which will include lambs, heifers, rabbits, and boilers.

Bill Hightower, Coleman FFA teacher will be the judge. Billy Riley will coordinate the show, and

L.J. Gray will serve as announcer. Superintendent of the Steers and Heifers class will be Eddie Glenn Sandusky and R. Lee Brown with 2 students assisting. They are Walter L. Moore and Dolan Morris. Superintendent of the Lambs will be Lloyd Gilmore, T. J. Neil with assisting students Buddy Calder and Shannon Boyd. Superintendent of the Hogs will be George

English, Jack Moore, Randy Bond, Larry Teaff, with students assisting, Cindy Boone and Randy Holmes. Superintendent of the Poultry and Rabbits will be Lane McGee, Jerry Gibson, with students assisting Mike Frazier and Lawrence Sanhoukey.

Taylor Electric Coop will present a showmanship trophy again this year.

### Vinson Presented Plaque by Taylor County Farm Bureau

Raymond McNiece of Lawn, Membership Chairman of Taylor County Farm Bureau, presents Billy Vinson, newly elected President of Taylor County Farm Bureau, a plaque, which the county received in Houston, at the Texas Farm Bureau Convention, for having the largest membership in the seventeen county district seven. The county was also recognized and presented a trophy for twenty years of continuous membership gain.

McNiece reported that the membership of Taylor County at the close of the fiscal year was 1423 active

farm and ranch families. Vinson expressed his appreciation for the fine work that the membership committee had done and noted that the farmer and rancher perhaps faced their greatest challenge since the depression days. He further noted that only about four percent of the population today was in the farming and ranching business and many of these are part time. That means that ninety-six per

cent of the population are represented in Congress by representatives, which are not agriculturally orientated, therefore trying to solve our economic chaos with political solutions only is remote.

"It is a challenge," Vinson continued, "and we must first overcome our own frustrations and then search for solutions in an orderly and unified manner."

### Guy Michael Henry Appointed by Omar Burleson

Congressman Omar Burleson announces his appointment of Guy Michael Henry of Route 1, Box 165 in Merkel to a slate of nine nominees to the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado, for admission in July, 1978. Eight other applicants from the 17th Congressional District

have been appointed to this slate.

The Academy will now examine and appraise the nominees and select a Principal for admission, with qualified Alternates. Alternates may be given further consideration, depending upon available vacancies.

### Farmers Union Elects Officers

The Taylor County Farmers Union held their annual monthly meeting Tuesday night the 13th, at the Taylor Electric Building at 7:30 with new officers residing.

Those elected were Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Toombs, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Bob Toombs, Mr. and Mrs. Ford Smith, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hogan, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Montgomery, Mr. and Mrs. John Henslee, Mr. and Mrs. Freddy Toombs, Eddie Glenn Sandusky,

### Annual Girl Scout Council to Meet

Mrs. J.B. Cooper, Jr., of Roscoe, President of the West Texas Girl Scout Council, announces that the Board of Directors set January 23, 1978 as the date of the Annual Council Meeting.

The dinner meeting will be held in the Big Spring High School Cafeteria at 7:30 p.m.

W.L. Albright will be the keynote speaker. Mr. Albright is Executive Vice President of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and Industrial Growth and Development. He is personally involved in many civic, fraternal, and veteran's organizations; he holds the Silver Beaver Award of Boy

Scouts and is an Eagle Scout. Girl Scout adults, guests and Senior Girl Scouts are invited to attend. Special recognitions and awards will be presented to outstanding volunteers.

The highlight of the meeting was electing state delegates to attend the State Farmers Union con-



### News and Thoughts

By Martha Sue Justice

Leroy Austermann, Merkel Police Chief, reported Tuesday that on December 12th and 13th, the police department was successful in solving six burglaries that have taken place in Merkel. Four juveniles were involved in these thefts, however, according to Austermann all merchandise and money were recovered.

The Christmas season is upon us and no matter who you are or where you are—everyone needs to be thankful for what they have. If you do not have the means to give to those you are close to—give them Love, because after all—this is the most important thing in the world!

Gifts of love—are the best gifts of all.

"The greatest love is shown when a person lays down his life for his friends." -John 15:13

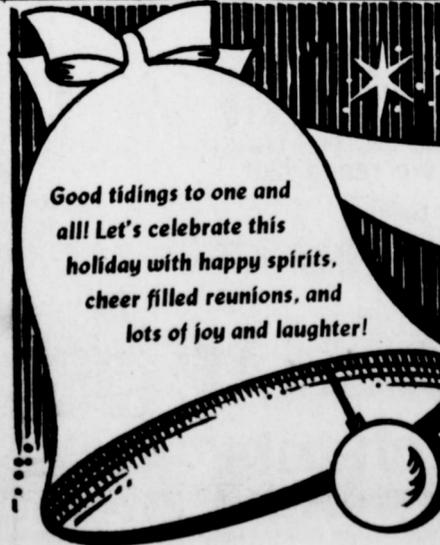
Written By: Patricia Spradling—

In a manger, so long ago  
The blessed Virgin Mary,  
Gave Birth to Jesus,  
The redeemer of our souls.  
The star of Bethlehem,  
Shone oh so bright,  
To guide the wisemen,  
To baby Jesus on that night.  
They brought with them,  
Tokens of their love,  
knowing God had sent his son,  
To bring his message from above.  
His very presence upon this earth,  
was, and still is, our promise of rebirth.  
Let us take this time,  
So precious and dear,  
To show our love for others,  
Both far away and near.  
Let us spread Good will and Cheer,  
Not only on this day, but each day, all year.  
Then let us bow our heads and in reverence pray,  
"Oh thank you God for this and each glorious Day!"

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY—On this Christmas day, and all the days of our lives,—God is always with us.

The birth of Jesus took place while most persons were asleep. Very few people knew the great act of God that was taking place. Jesus came to us peacefully and humbly as he still comes that way today. ARE WE YET ASLEEP? If so,—wake up and spread the joys of Christmas to everyone that you come in contact with.

**IMPORTANT**  
**John Williamson Jr. to Speak**  
THERE WILL BE A MEETING AT THE REA BUILDING TUESDAY, JAN. 3rd AT 7:30 P.M. JOHN WILLIAMSON JR., FROM TWOA PARK, AMERICAN AGRICULTURE STRIKE ORGANIZATION. MR. WILLIAMSON WILL BE HERE TO HELP MERKEL ORGANIZE AN AGRICULTURE STRIKE ORGANIZATION. ALL FARMERS & BUSINESSMEN ARE URGED TO ATTENDED



Good tidings to one and all! Let's celebrate this holiday with happy spirits, cheer filled reunions, and lots of joy and laughter!

## Greetings to All

**Joy**



and  
our best  
wishes for  
a cheerful  
**CHRISTMAS**

ROLAND, BECKI,  
CHAD & JILL  
PACK

**HAPPY HOLIDAY**



Peace on earth,  
good will toward men

**PALMER  
PONTIAC  
& GMC**

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ALLIE R. ALLEN, DECEASED**

14, 1977, in Cause No. 13,250, pending in the County Court of Taylor County, Texas, to: Alberta A. Morris

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Allie R. Allen, Deceased, were issued on December

The residence of such Executor is Abilene, Taylor County, Texas. The post office address is: c-o Gaston Welborn, Jr.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

2434 Rountree  
Abilene, Texas 79601

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 14th day of December, 1977.

By Gaston Welborn, Jr.  
44-1tc

**WE SPECIALIZE IN  
SEPTIC SYSTEMS  
ROADS & DRIVES**

**L. R. McGEE  
BACKHOE SERVICES**

RT. 3 BOX 94 925-5423



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

It's the season for saying hello to friends & wishing them the very best!

**PUG & LEO'S  
AND ALL THEIR EMPLOYEES**



*May enchantment be your gift at Christmas. Our gift is your friendship, thanks.*

**To Our Friends & Customers**  
W. J. & Hope Patterson

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**LA-Z-BOY  
OR  
BERKLINE  
RECLINERS**

**ALL  
25%  
OFF**



LIFETIME MECHANISM GUARANTEE

THRU CHRISTMAS

**STARBUCK  
FURNITURE**

928-4711

# Christmas Greetings



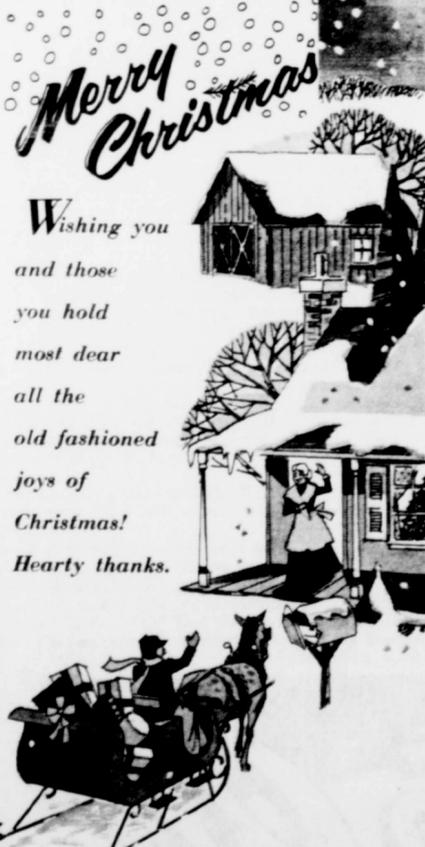
May love and happiness decorate your holiday and everyone around your tree share the special joy that only Christmas brings! At this festive season we reach out to greet the friends who mean so much to us all year through. Thanks for being part of our lives.

**Merry, Merry Christmas!**

From All Of Us At  
**The Farmers And Merchants  
National Bank**

*Merry Christmas*

Wishing you  
and those  
you hold  
most dear  
all the  
old fashioned  
joys of  
Christmas!  
Hearty thanks.



**Arrow Ford  
Abilene**

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

**BIG WEEKEND?  
BIGGER FOOD VALUES!**

PRICES GOOD  
THURSDAY  
FRI. & SAT.  
DEC. 22-23-24

Pimento Cheese  
Hot Bar-B-Que  
Beans -Potato Salad



PURE CANE LIMIT 1  
**SUGAR** 5LB BAG **89¢**  
SHADY LANE 10 OZ  
**CHERRIES** **49¢**

**COCA COLA**  
7UP OR  
DIET 7UP  
PLUS DEPOSIT  
32 OZ EA **19¢**

**CRISCO** LIMIT 1  
3 LB CAN **\$1.59**

**BACON** HORMEL LB **\$1.39**

**TURKEYS & CHICKEN HENS**

**HAMS** WHOLE OR HALF LB **\$1.29**  
CENTER CUT LB **\$1.69**  
SHANK END LB **\$1.09**

**SAUSAGE** GOOCH BLUE RIBBON 2 LB **\$2.39**

HORMEL **HAM PATTIES** 12OZ **\$1.19**

HORMEL **LITTLE SIZZLERS** PKG **98¢**

**JELLO** REG PKG 2/ **35¢** KRAFT MARSHMALLOW CREME 7OZ **39¢**

IMPERIAL POWDERED SUGAR 1LB 2/ **59¢** KRAFT MINIATURE MARSHMALLOWS 6OZ 2/ **39¢**

BEST MAID SWEET PICKLES 22OZ **79¢** DEL MONTE MANDARIN ORANGES 11OZ **49¢**

RED LABEL KARO 16OZ **59¢** NESTEA INSTANT TEA 3OZ **\$1.69**

HERSHEYS MINI CHOCOLATE CHIPS 12OZ **69¢**

DEL MONTE **PUMPKIN PIE MIX** NO 2 1/2 CAN **59¢**

**WESSON OIL** 16 OZ **69¢**

DEL MONTE **FRUIT COCKTAIL** 303 CAN **39¢**

OCEAN SPRAY **CRANBERRY SAUCE** 300 CAN **39¢**

**PIE FILLING** COMSTOCK CHERRY NO 2 CAN **98¢**

DEL MONTE **PINEAPPLE** CRUSHED FLAT CAN **29¢**

DEL MONTE **GREEN BEANS** WHOLE 303 CAN 2/ **69¢**

**PEACHES** DEL MONTE NO 2 1/2 CAN **49¢**

**FLOUR** GOLD MEDAL 5 LB **69¢**

COME BY AND REGISTER FOR A  
**FREE 10 LB TURKEY**  
TO BE GIVEN AWAY  
EACH SATURDAY  
FROM NOW  
TILL CHRISTMAS



Need Not Be Present To Win  
No Purchase Necessary

DUNCAN HINES **CAKE MIX** **59¢**

**PITTED DATES** DROMEDARY 8OZ PKG **59¢**  
1 LB PKG **89¢**

**EAGLE BRAND MILK** 14 OZ **59¢**

CAMBELLS MUSHROOM SOUP 2/ **45¢**

ZEE WHITE 60 CT **NAPKINS** 2/ **49¢**

DELSEY **TISSUE** 4 ROLL PKG **79¢**

**MILK** PRESTONS LOW FAT GAL **\$1.49** REG HOMO GAL **\$1.59**

**MILK** PRESTONS LOW FAT 1/2 GAL **85¢** REG HOMO 1/2 GAL **89¢**

**WHIPPING CREAM** FOREMOST OR GANDYS **33¢**

**EGG NOG** FOREMOST OR GANDYS QT **69¢**

MEADOWLAKE **OLEO** 1 LB PKG 2/ **69¢** BAKERS ANGEL FLAKE 3 OZ **COCONUT** **45¢**

**CREAM CHEESE** PHILADELPHIA 8 OZ **59¢** KRAFT MIRACLE WHIP QT **98¢**

USDA APPROVED TO REDEEM FOOD STAMPS DELIVERIES DAILY AT 10:00 A.M.

\$5.00 MINIMUM DELIVERY



Where Customers Send Their Friends  
PHONE 928-5713

Double Premiums  
On WEDNESDAY ON  
Purchase of \$7.50  
OR MORE IN MERCHANDISE

Save Valuable  
Cash Register Tapes  
For Premiums



# OPEN SHOP IN THE

# CLASSIFIEDS

FOR MORE PROFITABLE RESULTS



## CARD OF THANKS

Words are inadequate to express our deep gratitude and appreciation to our many dear friends and loved ones and to the Merkel Church of Christ for the food, flowers and services rendered to our family, during the time of our sorrow, in the loss of our beloved wife, mother, and sister.  
James R. McArthur and sons; Guy, Jesse and Thomas  
Mary Barry, Loessa Smith and I.D. Simpson, Jr.  
44-1tp

Our heartfelt thanks to all who extended comforting sympathy and help in our recent sorrow. For the beautiful service, floral offerings, and other kindnesses, we are deeply grateful.  
The family of Sinclair Phillips.  
44-1tp

Our recent sad loss of a husband and father leaves us with grateful hearts toward neighbors and friends. Your comforting expression of sympathy and thoughtfulness will always be remembered. Thank you so much for your cards, food and prayers.  
The family of J. H. (Harvey) McKee  
44-1tp

## FOR RENT

SHANNONSIDE APARTMENTS-1, 2, and 3 bedroom apartments, shag carpet, all electric, dishwasher, garbage disposal, central cooling and heating. For more information call 928-5038.  
8-tfc

## MISCELLANEOUS

WE BUY PAPERBACKS. Come by or call The Merkel Mail, 928-5712.  
3-tfc  
TO GIVE AWAY puppies, make good pets and Christmas gifts. Call 928-5406.  
44-1tc

## FOR SALE

PEANUTS FOR SALE: Contact Lee Presswood after 5:00 p.m. 928-5815.  
38-tfc

FOR SALE: art-plaster gifts for Christmas. Also good used furniture. 1311 S. 2nd Street, Merkel.  
44-1tc

FIREWOOD FOR SALE: Custom cut. Tree removal done. Inquire at 1415 N. 2nd. Call 928-4916.  
43-3tc

## HELP WANTED

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY for an agricultural oriented person to earn an extra income selling a full line of farm seeds to farmers and ranchers on a commission basis. Send complete resume to Miller Seed Company Box 886, Hereford, Texas 79045.  
44-4tc

WANTED: Feed truck driver to drive fully automatic feed truck on premises. No Commercial License necessary. Insurance and other benefits. Man or Woman apply Cal Tex Feed Yard, Trent, Texas.  
43-2tc

## CRAIN'S GARAGE

MAJOR AND MINOR AUTO REPAIR  
AUTOMATIC TRANS  
MISSION REPAIR  
ALSO TRACTOR  
WORK AND MOST  
FOREIGN CARS.  
NORTH 1st, MERKEL  
ROUND TOP BUILDING. PHONE 928-4915

## CAN HAUL

DIRT  
ROCK & GRAVEL  
LEVEL & REPAIR  
DRIVEWAYS  
Call Evenings  
Harold Walker  
PHONE 928-5872  
202 CHERRY

## Services

WORK AT HOME in spare time. Possible earnings of \$250 a week stuffing envelopes. Send 25 cents plus stamped, self-addressed envelope for more information.  
AMERICAN SALES  
P.O. Box 760  
PALM HARBOR  
FLORIDA 33563  
41-4tp

FINE FURNITURE FABRICS at better prices. Professional upholstery available. Randy's Fabrics, 1190 Butternut, 673-2238.  
6-tfc

MERKEL DAY CARE CENTER (licensed) operator by a licensed vocational nurse call 928-4904, Thelma Wade.  
39-tfc

## REAL ESTATE

LAND FOR SALE? Call Collect-Bill Largent, Farm and Ranch Mgr. at Frances McClure Inc., Realtors, 3157 South 27th Abilene, 698-3211, Night 698-2375.  
46-tfc

MERKEL VFW  
POST 5683  
MONTHLY  
REG. MEETING  
8:30 P.M.  
SECOND THURSDAY  
POST & LADIES AUXILIARY  
Y'ALL COME NOW!

CYPERT'S TAX SERVICE WILL be filing tax returns in '78. Mrs. Ted (Wanda) McAninch will be working with me. Will be attending seminar at McMurry College to keep up with new changes.  
Mildred Cypert

## PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF SURRENO WAYNE PARKMEN, DECEASED  
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Surreno Wayne Parkman, Deceased, were issued on December 14, 1977, in Cause No. 13,249, pending in the County Court of Taylor County, Texas, to: Margaret Nadine Parkman  
The residence of such Executor is Abilene, Taylor County, Texas. The post office address is: c-o Gaston Welborn, Jr. 2434 Rountree Abilene, Texas 79601  
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
DATED the 14th day of December, 1977.  
By Gaston Welborn, Jr.  
44-1tc

We appreciate the good neighbors and friends who came to help us save our home. Also a special thanks to those who stayed all night and also all fire fighters and law enforcement officers.  
Jud McReynolds  
44-1tnc

SEAT COVER CENTER  
SEAT COVERS  
TRUCK CUSHIONS  
DOOR PANELS  
ARM RESTS  
HEADLINERS  
1056 BUTTERNUT  
677-1349  
ABILENE

Need A Car? No Credit Check  
No Interest  
KENNETH MAYFIELD invites all his friends from Merkel and surrounding areas to visit him when looking for a good used car. Credit is no problem. The coffee is always hot, so when in Abilene stop in and see Ken at  
Bachmann Used Cars  
4123 N. 1st Abilene, Texas

PRESTIGE HOMES & PROPERTIES  
MERRY CHRISTMAS  
Brick-3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 3 years old, attached garage, on Avondale. Call sales man at night or Orlando Rosas, 677-2518.  
Need nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with 2 car garage in Merkel or nearby. Call us if you want to sell.  
LISTINGS NEEDED & APPRECIATED  
317 North Willis, Suite 20  
Abilene TX 79603 • 673-6444

Toombs Real Estate  
FREDDY TOOMBS (Broker)  
116 EDWARDS  
PH. 928-5921  
RES. 928-5696  
PEGGY DENNISON RES. 672-6727  
3 bedrooms-2 bath CONTRACT PENDING in Trent  
VACANT LOTS FOR SALE-for trailer and buildings in all sections of town. Reduced for quick sale.  
2 BEDROOM HOUSE-water well, new carpet, one bath, and big garage.  
For sale 2 bedroom, 1976 mobile home, water well fence and garage.  
For sale 2 bedroom house near school.  
WE NEED ALL KINDS OF LISTINGS  
HOUSES FARMS & RANCHES

## PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF EVA BLEVINS WILL-

WE PAY  
150% OVER FACE  
VALUE FOR ALL  
SILVER COINS.  
\$.250 FOR \$1.00  
SILVER (We pay 25c for silver dimes)  
PRATTS COIN & STAMP SHOP  
2155 S. 1st  
Abilene, Texas

ALL TYPES OF INSURANCE  
BONEY INSURANCE AGENCY  
Phone 8-5151

FOR THOSE GOOD SHELL PRODUCTS STOP BY DISHMAN'S SHELL  
211 KENT  
928-5222  
MECHANIC ON DUTY

MERKEL ELECTRIC  
We do commercial and residential electric work. Need a house rewired or just a little work. Call us for a free estimate. You don't have to wait for work you want done at a reasonable price.  
FRANK CAMPBELL  
512 Cherry  
P.O. Box 163  
928-5291

Pre-Paid Funeral Plans  
Funeral Service Insurance  
Life Insurance  
STARBUCK FUNERAL HOME  
928-4711

## PUBLIC NOTICE

INGHAM, DECEASED  
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Eva Blevins Willingham, Deceased, were issued on December 14, 1977, in Cause No. 13,238, pending in the County Court of Taylor County, Texas, to: James R. Willingham  
The residence of such Executor is Abilene, Taylor County, Texas. The post office address is: c-o Gaston Welborn, Jr. 2434 Rountree Abilene, Texas 79601  
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
DATED the 14th day of December, 1977.  
By Gaston Welborn, Jr.  
44-1tc

GREGG FISHER PLUMBING  
ALL TYPES OF PLUMBING WORK  
QUALITY WORK AND REASONABLE PRICES  
CALL  
928-5379  
5-8  
928-5627

KEN'S RADIO & TV  
KEN KRAATZ - OWNER  
REPAIR ALL MAKES & MODELS OF TV'S & RADIOS  
F.C.C. LICENSED  
REASONABLE RATES  
PICK - UP & DELIVER  
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DUMP TRUCKS ESTIMATES MAINTAINERS  
WATTS & BISHOP  
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915-928-5769 MERKEL  
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DRIVES GRAVEL CLEARING  
WATERWAYS CALICHE TERRACING

FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS...  
SEYMORE INSURANCES  
102 EDWARDS  
928-5379  
Auto, Property, General Liability, Crop, Health, Life, Disability, Tax-sheltered retirement, Educational plans  
FARMERS UNION SERVICE POINT

F & L BOOT & SHOE REPAIR SHOP  
has expert repairmen. They can resole the old clodhoppers or perform delicate orthopedic alterations. You name it and we can do it. Go by the CIRCLE A WESTERN HOUSE on North 2nd Street in MERKEL and take advantage of their new BOOT & SHOE REPAIR SERVICE.  
THREE DAY SERVICE

BOOKS  
BOOKS  
BOOKS  
COME IN & SEE ALL OF THE USED BOOKS WE NOW HAVE ON SALE.  
HARLEQUIN ROMANCES, 25c EACH OR 5 FOR \$1.00  
ALL OTHERS 30c EACH OR 4 FOR \$1.00  
THE MERKEL MAIL

## BOOKS

20c AND UP  
THE MERKEL MAIL  
917 N. SECOND

CAL TEX BUYERS OF CATTLE MILO AND HAY  
ROUTE 2 BOX 128  
TRENT, TEXAS  
915-862-2951  
CUSTOM CATTLE FEEDING

FOR ALL TYPES OF REMODELING  
CALL AFTER 6  
928-4916

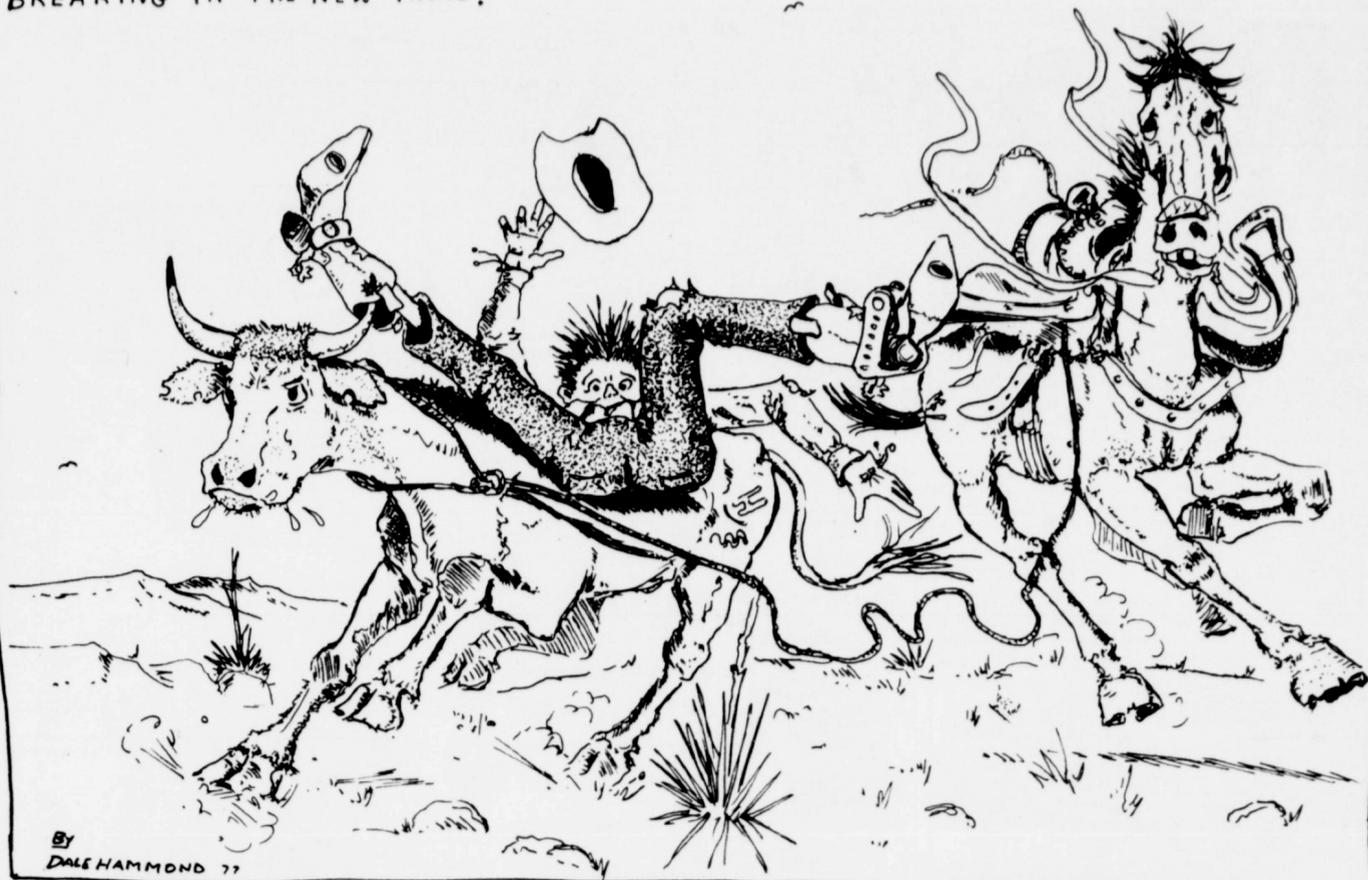
CAKES GALORE  
WEDDING, BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARIES, SPECIALTY  
928-5508

C.B. RADIO'S REPAIR SUPPLIES  
TV REPAIR  
C.B. ANTENNAS PRICES ARE VERY DEFINITELY COMPETITIVE  
STEROS RECORD CHANGER & 8 TRACK PLAYERS  
STANFORD'S ELECTRONICS  
123 KENT MERKEL  
928-5762

**AUTHORIZED DEALER**  
Lawn & Garden Equipment  
Allis-Chalmers - Dwtanna  
Hay Machinery  
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Welding Equipment  
Shafer Plows - Continel Belton Products  
677-4349  
DOTY FARM EQUIPMENT CO.  
366 Chestnut  
Nights-Sundays-Holidays 672-2451 - 698-2572

MEMBER  
1977  
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Merkel Mail  
PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT  
Established in 1889  
Published weekly at 916 N. Second St., Merkel, Texas. Entered at the Post Office at Merkel, Texas, 79536 as second class mail.  
Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing of reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of the newspaper will be corrected, gladly, upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.  
SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$5.50 Per Year Taylor and adjoining counties. \$6.25 Per Year outside of Taylor and adjoining counties.  
Member of the Texas Press Association and West Texas Press Association.  
Steve Lanham ..... Publisher  
Martha Sue Justice ..... Editor  
Lillian Pack ..... Advertising Sales Manager  
For Classified Rates:  
\$1.50 minimum for the first four lines (18 words.) Excess of 4 lines will be charged at the rate of 8 cents per word.  
TERMS: 25 cents discount if bill is paid prior to first insertion.  
Card of Thanks: \$3.00 minimum for the first 50 words, 6 cents per word for each additional word.  
TERMS: Cash in advance unless account is established.  
NOTICE of typographical or other errors must be given before the second insertion or claims for refund or extensions will not be recognized.



By DALE HAMMOND 77

**CHRISTMAS WISHES**

**Stanford's Electronics**  
APPLIANCES 123 Kent

**Greetings**  
DECEMBER 25

It's nice to have so many friends!  
Here's hoping you have the merriest of holidays and gifts galore!

**Abilene Livestock Auction**

**A CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE WILL BE HELD THURSDAY AND FRIDAY AT ABILENE SAVINGS AND LOAN IN MERKEL REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED FROM 8:30 TO 4:00. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND**

**UT computer use tops in nation**

AUSTIN, Texas (Spl.) — Move over, Earl Campbell. The University of Texas also is No. 1 in the use of computers in teaching and research. UT Austin has been judged the nation's leader among 106 education institutions in the successful academic use of computers.

UT was the only one judged exemplary in six areas of computer excellence: student accomplishments, institutional accomplishments, spectrum of applications, computer literacy, computer science or data processing curricula, and outreach to the community. About 50 per cent of UT's almost 42,000 students make use of campus computer facilities each semester.

**Christmas Greetings**

To all our good friends.  
**Merkel VFW**  
Post 5683

**Up on orbits**

AUSTIN, Texas (Spl.) — One would have to go to Leningrad, U.S.S.R., to find a center similar to the Center for Orbital Mechanics at The University of Texas. Orbital mechanics is concerned with the study of motion of natural and artificial bodies such as planets, stars, meteorites and satellites. UT's center is busy with research on satellite tracking to try to find out what happens to an orbiting body over a long period of time. One practical application of such research is the prediction of when a man-made satellite would return to earth.

**Films for rent**

AUSTIN, Texas (Spl.) — If you have a yen to see a 1925-vintage movie of "The Lost World" with Wallace Beery or films of Longhorn football games dating back to 1937, The University of Texas Film Library is at your service. About 2,500 films are maintained by the Film Library, which has been in operation for 62 years. The collection ranges from educational films on the social sciences (the most popular category) to "golden oldie" movies. The minimum rental fee for a film is \$9. Inquiries may be directed to Jane Webb at the Film Library. (512) 471-3573.

**GREETINGS**

May Christmas bring you happy hours and shining memories. Thinking of you, dear friends, and saying "thanks."

**Dubose Texaco**

To faithful old friends,  
To cherished new friends,  
Our thanks and best wishes  
for a Merry,

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
**Bassett**  
**Manufacturing**  
**Co.**

**We wish you a Merry Christmas**

Hope every day of the holidays is a special day for you, filled with the pleasures that make you happiest!

Add our thanks to your holiday joys.

**Merkel Drug Co.**

**Merry Christmas**

When we count our blessings at Christmas time we think of friends like you and wish you a beautiful holiday in a beautiful world!

From All The Folks At  
**Ben Franklin's**

## Gorilla Growl

Basketball is just about the number one talk around Trent besides Christmas.

The Hawley Bearcats traveled to the Gorilla Gym last Tuesday night. The Bearcats beat both the boys and girls of Trent.

The Gorillas will play in the Hawley Tournament December 29, 30, 31. That is the only games that will be played during the holiday.

School will dismiss Wednesday, December 21 at 2:00. Classes will resume January 2, 1978, but school will dismiss at 2:00.

Happy Birthday to a few people this week in Gorilla Country is: December 20 M.E. Griffith, December 25 Tammy Hicks, December 26 Tina Hamner.

A band concert was held December 19 in the Gorilla Gym. All twelve grades in school participated in the Christmas Variety of songs. Everyone really enjoyed the Christmas Concert.

Merry Christmas to all from the people of Trent!!



The First Baptist Church at Trent gave their preacher and his family a "Pounding" for Christmas. This is not meant as a pounding on the head or etc...but a party when everyone brings food and canned goods to give them. The church also gave Jim, Jo Ann, and Gayle Lawless a Money Tree, as shown in this picture, with them and their grandson, Buster.

## Mr. & Mrs. Bonneaux to Celebrate

Mr. and Mrs. Karl Bonneaux will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary, December 22nd with a big Christmas dinner for their Knisman at their home in Noodle Community in Jones County.

They were married in 1917 in Weatherford, Texas where both were raised. They moved to Jones County in 1929 to work for Jack B. Roberts Oil Company. Mr. Bonneaux has been with this company for 52 years. It is now Robert and King of Abilene. He still holds a steady job for them at the age of 82 years. Mr. and Mrs. Bonneaux have been active members in the Veterans of World War I organization since 1960. He has been Commander of the Merkel Trent Bar-

racks for 15 years. They have both held District and State offices in this organization up until 1976. They are active members of the Church of Christ in Noodle.



May your Christmas tree be gay with decorations, and your home be bright with warmth & laughter!

Sincere greetings from all of us at  
**Wylie Truck Terminal**



May your holidays be merry and marvelous... festive wishes from Santa and us.

**Boney Insurance**



The world's largest swimming pool is in Casablanca, Morocco. It measures 1,575 feet by 246 feet.



**HOLIDAY GREETINGS!**  
And a very sincere thank you  
**BIG COUNTRY INN**



**Star Hardware Trent**



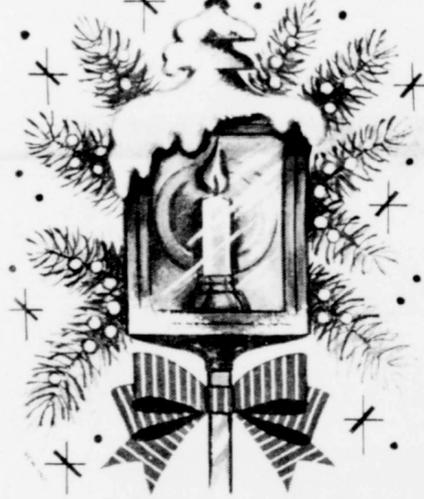
**Merkel Chamber Of Commerce**



Roll up these warm wishes Packed 'em full of fun, For a Happy, Happy Christmas That's a really perfect one. Thanks to you all.

**Taylor Telephone Co.**

## Season's Greetings



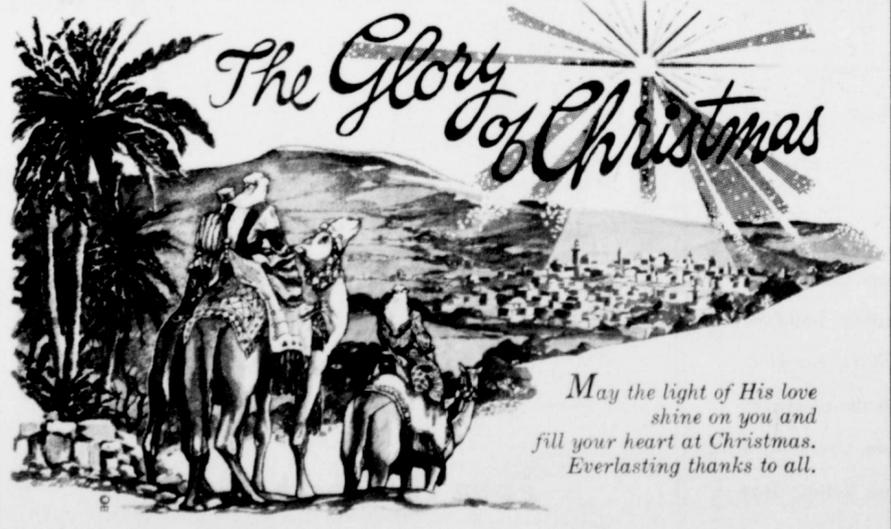
Yuletide greetings to one and all! May your holidays be filled with gladness.

State Representative Of District 61  
**ELMER & BILLIE MARTIN**



Coming your way with thanks and all kinds of good wishes for a Happy Holiday Season!

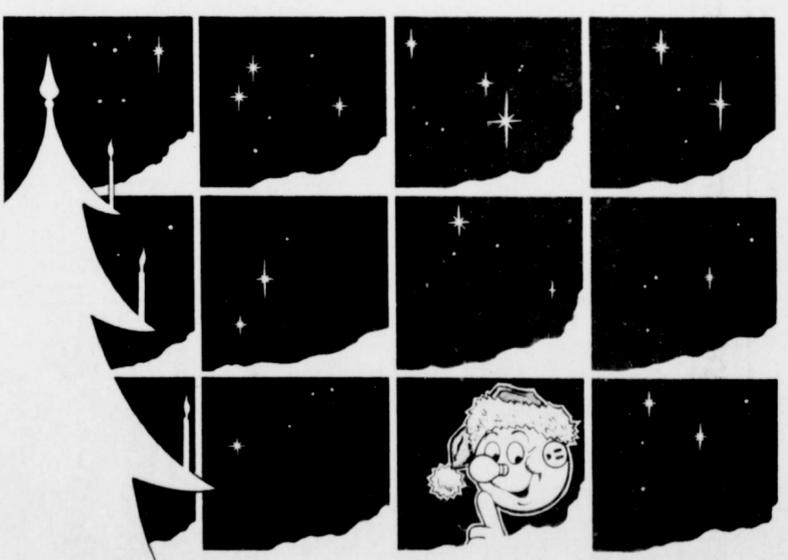
**Abilene Farm Supply**  
TRACTOR SALES



May the light of His love shine on you and fill your heart at Christmas. Everlasting thanks to all.

**Carson's Super Market**

## Merry Christmas



**WEST TEXAS UTILITIES COMPANY**  
W.T.U.  
A Member of The Central and South West Systems

### Brooks-Herring Exchange Vows

Patricia Kay Brooks and Alton Don Herring were married Sunday afternoon at the Chapel of the First Baptist Church in Abilene with Larry Link officiating. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Brooks of Abilene and the granddaughter of Mrs. Truman Carey and great-granddaughter of Mrs. F.W. Dickerson of Merkel. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy E. Herring of 1406 Tanglewood, Abilene. Mrs. Bobby Green of Abilene was her sister's matron of honor. Amy

Green, niece of the bride was flower girl. Joe Stephens of Abilene was best man. Ushers were Danny Haddox and Steve Buck also of Abilene. Organist was Janet Irwin with Steve Ink as vocalist. Tina Tarrant registered guests. The brides parents hosted the reception at the Abilene Country Club.

The bride is a graduate of Cooper High School and attended Hardin Simmons University and McMurry College. She was employed by Robinson, Hanna, Burke, Moore and Holloway law firm.

The bridegroom graduated from Cooper High School. He received a B.S. degree from McMurry College and a certificate of Proficiency in Physical Therapy from the University of Oklahoma Physical

Therapy School. He is a Physical Therapist at Physicians Physical Therapy

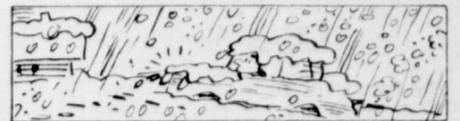
The bridegrooms parents hosted the rehearsal dinner at the Abilene Country Club.

After a wedding trip to San Antonio the couple will live at 1725 Woodridge in Abilene.

"Nothing is more common than a fool with a strong memory." C. C. Colton



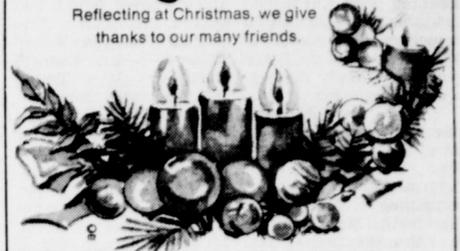
The motto "In God We Trust" first appeared on a two-cent piece in 1864.



If you anticipate a snowstorm, back the car into the garage. You won't have to risk stalls when you turn around.

### Merry Christmas

Reflecting at Christmas, we give thanks to our many friends.



L. R. McGee Backhoe Service



Patricia Kay Herring



JOYOUS  
HOLIDAY  
GREETINGS

Best of the season to you and your family!  
Ray Pack  
And  
Halfbreed



Peace on Earth  
Good Will  
Towards Men!

May the spirit of love that is the essence of Christmas permeate all hearts. we pray. Noel!

Grace  
Presbyterian  
Church



Wishing you a Christmas bright with promise and glad with hope! Your loyalty is greatly appreciated.

Western  
Auto

139 Kent 928-4727



Sincere  
Good Wishes

Hoping all the precious things in Life will come to you this Christmas!

Warm thanks.

Higginbotham-Bartlett Company  
Pat, Linda, Debbie, Billy, Pat, Mike Hicks



BLESSINGS  
of the  
seasons

We wish you and yours the happiest of holidays!

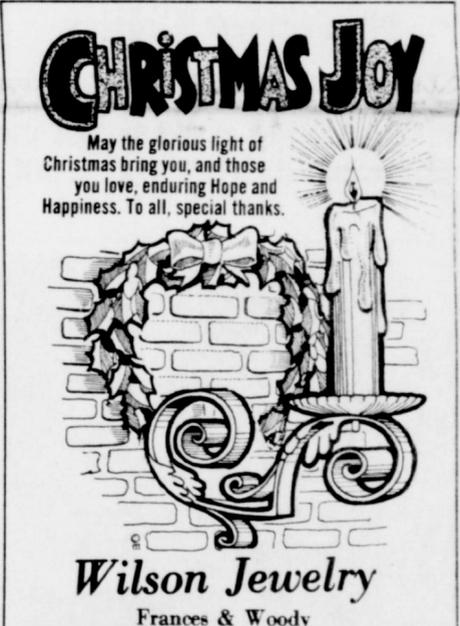
Doty Farm  
Equipment



A Joyful Christmas

It's great to keep in touch with those who mean so much! Wishing you a wonderful holiday!

Carroll's Barber Shop



CHRISTMAS JOY

May the glorious light of Christmas bring you, and those you love, enduring Hope and Happiness. To all, special thanks.

Wilson Jewelry

Frances & Woody

**FINAL ROUND—UP  
PRE—CHRISTMAS SPECIALS**  
3 DAYS ONLY  
ALL BAILEY FELT HATS \$35.00 VALUES **\$20.00**  
ENTIRE STOCK TONY LAMA BOOTS **20% DISCOUNT**  
1 RACK MENS WESTERN SHIRTS **\$8.98**  
BOYS WESTERN SHIRTS **1/4 OFF**  
BELL BOTTOM, FLARES COTTON LEVIS' & WRANGLERS PANTS CHOICE **\$11.98**  
**CIRCLE A WESTERN HOUSE**

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* PECAN SHELLERS.....\$9.95 \*  
\* PECAN PICKER UPPER...\$4.00 \*  
\* SMALL APPLIANCES.....10% \*  
\* NOW UNTIL CHRISTMAS \*  
\* CASTILLE HARDWARE \*  
\* & GIFTS PHO 928-5310 \*  
\* 214 EDWARDS \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Blessings at Christmas**  
*Let Peace encircle the world  
and all men walk hand in hand.  
We raise our voice in thanks.*

**Seymore Insurance**  
Mack, Ida, Stacy, & Ted

**a Christmas Carol**

Love and joy come to you and a heartfelt thank you too.

**Hicks Auto Supply**  
Betty, Wanda, Ernest,  
Marvin, W.A., Gary, & Ben

Let there be **LOVE** at Christmas  
And Throughout The New Year  
**The Castille's**

## Fortnightly Study Club News

The Fortnightly Study Club met in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Comer Haynes who were assisted by Mrs. Nell Teaff as Hostess for a Christmas Party and the regular meeting program. Delightful refreshments in keeping with Christmas tradition were served to members and guests as they arrived to visit and view the lovely decorations in the home.

Then a short business meeting was conducted by Mrs. Carl Hughes, President, who reminded the nominating committee, consisting of Mrs. Aaron Sudderth, Mary Collins and Mrs. Don Dudley, that they should have report of Officers by next regular meeting date on January 10, 1978.

Members and guest then enjoyed a lovely Christmas Program in keeping with quotation by Sara Tandy:

'And in each window burning bright  
The Christ Child candles send their light.'

Further program consisted of Piano Solo of 'Silent Night' by Mrs. Andy Shouse - 'The Christmas I'll never forget' told by Mrs. Don Dudley - Trio entitled 'Christmas Hymn' rendered by Mrs. Kenneth Elliot, Mrs. Andy Shouse, and Mrs. Carl Hughes - 'Legend of the Christmas Candle' by Mrs. Comer Haynes - Duet by Mrs. Kenneth Elliot and Mrs. Andy Shouse entitled 'Star of the East' Mrs. Haynes accompanied at the piano. All enjoyed group singing of traditional Christmas Hymns and other carols. Present: Mrs. Johnny Cox, Mrs. Andy Shouse, Mrs. Carl Hughes, Mrs. Pinkie Cypert, Mildred Hamm, Mrs. Bryan Dunagin, Mrs. David Gamble, Mrs. Lige Gamble, Mrs. Aaron Sudderth.

death, Mrs. Earl Hughes, Mrs. Peck Eager, Mrs. Don Dudley, Mrs. Ray Wilson, Mary Collins, Mrs. C.B. Knight, Mrs. Mack Fisher, Mrs. Comer Haynes, Guests were Mrs. Geo. T. Moore, Mrs. Floy Hicks and Mrs. Kenneth Elliot.

## Xi Nu Chi News

Xi Nu Chi, Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, met Tuesday, December 6 at the home of Mamie Steck. Jocille Brady, president, opened the meeting. Committee reports were given by each committee chairman. Plans for the Christmas Bazaar to be held Saturday, December 10 were discussed.

Program for the evening was candle exchange. Each member brought a candle and drew a number for a candle.

Refreshments were served to the following members after the meeting: Opal Garner, Liz Eager, Louise Dubose, Kathy Leverich, Charlotte Starbuck, Bobby Mansfield, Connie Harris, Betty Allday, Connie Ybarra, Jocille Brady, Mamie Steck, and Val Patterson.

## Xi Nu Chi Attends Dance

Several members of Xi Nu Chi, Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, met with other chapters from Abilene and surrounding areas Saturday, December 17 at the Abilene Civic Center for their annual Christmas Dance.

A night of fun and enjoyment was enjoyed by the following members and husbands: Mr. and Mrs. John Brady, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Dubose, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harris, Mr. and Mrs. George Starbuck, and Mr. and Mrs. Juan Ybarra.

## Last Rites Held for James Harvey McKee

MERKEL - James Harvey McKee, 66, a retired carpenter of Merkel, died at 10:15 a.m. Tuesday in Hendrick Medical Center following a lengthy illness. Services were held at 2:30 Friday at the First Baptist Church.

The Rev. Joe Sarratt, pastor of Northside Baptist Church in Lovington, N.M., assisted by Rev. Kenneth Jones, pastor, officiated. Burial will be in Newman Cemetery, directed by Starbuck Funeral Home.

Born Aug. 21, 1911, in Elmore City, Okla., Mr. McKee moved to the Sweetwater area in 1947. He married Mary Reda Head April 24, 1948, in Sweetwater. They moved to Lovington in 1952. He returned in May of 1976 to Merkel where he was a carpenter until retiring in June 1977.

Survivors include his wife; a son, James Wallace of Pasadena; three daughters, Nancy Laverne Sabins of Merkel, Mrs. Willie Donice Hunt of Ardmore, Okla., and Bleda Joyce Scott of Lorena; a brother, William McKee of Fort Worth; five sisters, Rosa McKee of Fort Worth, Ethel Billingham of Marietta, Okla., Mildred Downey of North Highlands, Calif., Mamie Jo Gerhart of Laureldale, Pa., and

## Connie Rannefeld Dies

ASPERMONT - Connie Rannefeld, 21, of Sweetwater and formerly of Jayton, died at 1:05 a.m. Wednesday in Stamford Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness. Services

were held at 2 p.m. Thursday in the First Baptist Church in Jayton. The Rev. Truet Kuentler, pastor, officiated. Burial was in Jayton Cemetery, directed by McCoy Funeral Home.

Born Feb. 20, 1956, in Jayton, she married Fred Rannefeld, June 30, in Jayton. She had lived

most of her life in Jayton. She was a Baptist. Survivors include her husband; her mother, Arsina McKeehan of Jayton; a brother, B.M. McKeehan of Merkel; seven sisters, Arene Laughlin and Mattie Hilton, both of Jayton, Maxine Laughlin of Aspermont, Lorene Gregory of Merkel, Ann Tagle of



The word "booze" is believed to come from the Dutch *buizen*, meaning "to drink to excess."



The game of volleyball was first played in the U.S. in 1896.

*Merry Christmas!*

God bless us, every one... and especially you. Our thanks to one and all.

**Emma's Clothes Closet**  
Emma & Della



May yours be merry and gay.  
Our hearty holiday thanks for your kind patronage.

## Ninth Street Grocery

Harold & JoAnne Bails

We've got what you want.



### Diamonds Make Beautiful Memories

The unmistakable look of elegance in diamond stud earrings and pendants. We're proud to offer one of the widest assortments of diamond sizes available, value-priced by the carat weight. Pendants and earrings set in 14K gold.

#### Earrings:

- 1/4 Carat total weight \$119
- 1/2 Carat total weight \$189
- 3/4 Carat total weight \$325
- 1 Carat total weight \$850

#### Pendants:

- 1/6 Carat \$140
- 1/4 Carat \$310
- 1/2 Carat \$425

Other sizes available to \$4,000.00

Convenient Terms, Layaway And Major Credit Cards.

## Jewel Box

WESTGATE MALL

692-0507

Other Locations in Lubbock and Odessa.



Christmas has changed greatly since the time of Dickens but there's one thing that's still the same—the heartfelt greeting of friends to one another as they celebrate the festive season... "Have a very merry Christmas!"

# Merkel TV Cable

Mitchell Atkinson



Mrs. Holland

## Holland-Davis Wed

Miss Debra Kay Davis and Jerry Jay Holland were united in marriage in an impressive candlelight double ring ceremony conducted by the bride's father the Rev. Joe F. Davis assisted by Rev. J. D. Seale of Burleson, in the Calvary Baptist Church, Merkel, Texas, on Saturday, December 10 at 2 p.m.

The bride is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Joe F. Davis of Merkel, Texas. She is a 1977 graduate of Stephenville High School. She attended Stephenville Beauty College. She is employed as a Nurses Aide MHMR at the Abilene State School.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Holland of Willow City, Texas, are the parents of the bridegroom, Jerry Jay. He is a 1974 graduate of Fredericksburg High School and attended Tarleton State University for three years. He is employed as an MHMR Aide at the Abilene State School.

Mrs. Dorothy Torrance presided at the organ. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Pack sang "Each for the Other and Both for the Lord", "The Twelfth of Never", and "Whither Thou Goest I Will Go". The impressive wedding ceremony was written and presented by the bride's father.

Baskets of gladiolus, spider mums and carnations were enhanced by candelabras entwined with greenery and lighted by white candles. Small candles surrounded by greenery and ribbons marked the church pews. A beautiful arrangement of pink and burgundy carnations surrounded by holly and pine held the unity candle which the couple lighted after the ceremony.

Given in marriage by her father the Rev. Joe F. Davis, the bride wore a beautiful gown of chiffon over Bridal satin with appliqued lace on bodice. Her cathedral length train was trimmed with appli-

qued lace and attached to a veil of orange blossoms. She carried a bouquet of burgundy and pink carnations surrounded by holly and pine with burgundy streamers. The bride presented each mother with an American Beauty rosebud.

The bride's cousin, Carol Lynn Bondie of Belleville, Michigan was maid-of-honor. The bridesmaids were Linda Holland of Houston, sister of the groom, Nancy Davis of Warren, Michigan, Sylvia Cotton, of Stephenville, Lynette Seal of Burleson, Connie Page and Becky Page both of Merkel, and the bride's only sister Tammy Davis, of Merkel was her junior bridesmaid. They wore princess style gabardine gowns of burgundy with pink jackets. The maid of honor wore a pink gown with burgundy jacket. They wore short pink net veils with matching ribbons. They carried colonial bouquets similar to the brides with burgundy and pink carnations surrounded by holly and pine with burgundy streamers. The flower girl was Staci Michele Pack, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Pack of Merkel. She wore a pink gown and carried a basket filled with flower petals which she so graciously distributed down the aisle.

The groom was handsome in his white, long tailed tuxedo. The groomsmen wearing burgundy tuxedos and pink carnations edged with burgundy and pink ruffled shirts

were Carroll Wendel of Stephenville as best man, Jerry Durst of Stephenville, Rene Wornner of Brownwood, Dennis Neffendorf of College Station, Ferri Durst of Fredericksburg, Duane Neffendorf of Austin, Audie Wienecke of Stephenville and Billy Davis, brother of the bride, from Merkel.

The ringbearer, wearing a tuxedo like the groomsmen, was Nicky Pugh, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Pugh of Stephenville.

The ushers were Leslie Pressler of Comfort and Roy Kneupper of Sisterdale, both attending Tarleton State University in Stephenville. They also wore tuxedos same as the groomsmen.

For her daughters wedding, Mrs. Joe Davis chose a gown of baby blue. The groom's mother, Mrs. A. J. Holland wore a gown of burgundy quiana. The grandmothers, Mrs. William Alexander of Plymouth, Michigan wore a salmon colored gown with draped neck. Grandmothers Mrs Albert Holland of Willow City wore a navy with white gown and Mrs. Theodor Ransleben of Fredericksburg wore a gold flowered gown. All wore a gold flowered gown. All wore corsages of burgundy and pink feathered carnations.

The couple's fathers wore burgundy tuxedos with pink ruffled shirts and pink carnations. The groom's grandfathers, Albert Holland and Theodor Ransleben were also present.

Approximately 80 guests attended the reception held in the Calvary Baptist Fellowship Hall. The hall was beautifully decorated with floral arrangements of burgundy and pink and other decor. Wedding scrolls were given guests as they registered at the bride's book. Mrs. Shirley McKee was in charge of the bride's book assisted by Mrs. Claudia Pugh of Stephenville. The bride's cake was a beautiful three tiered cake decorated with a bride and groom on lower level elevating the tiers decorated with flowers and white feathered doves topping the third tier. The groom's cake was a chocolate cake decorated with small white doves and wedding rings.

Out of town guests were from Willow City, Fredericksburg, Comfort, Sisterdale, Brownwood, Stephenville, Cain City, Austin, College Station, Burleson, Sweetwater, and Michigan.

When the newlyweds left on their wedding trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico, the bride was wearing a burgundy and pink ensemble with matching corsage of burgundy and pink feathered carnations. The groom wore a western outfit. They will make their home in Merkel, Texas.

The rehearsal supper was hosted by the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Holland of Willow City, at the Big Country Inn in Merkel. The Inn was decorated with burgundy

candles placed on horse shoes and surrounded by pine runners interwoven with burgundy grape clusters. The head table held a beautiful arrangement of a large burgundy candle displaying cupids, grapes and leaves surrounded by pine sticks, dried nuts, grape clusters and greenery. Forty-four guests attended the supper.

## World War I Veterans Meet

The Merkel, Trent Barracks 2248 to Veterans of World War I and their Auxiliary met at noon Saturday, December 17, 1977 for their Christmas feast and gift exchange.

Not many were present because of sickness but everyone enjoyed the food and fellowship.

Those present were: Guests, Mr. and Mrs. C.W. Brewer of Mesquite and Mrs. H. V. McDonald of Kermit, Members: Mr. and Mrs. Dee Poland, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Harwell, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Bonneaux, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hartley, G. M. Reynolds, Lovell Rutledge Mrs. Ora Grigg, Mrs. Trula Cox, Mrs. Trula Cox, Mrs. Irene Strawn, Mrs. Jewell Criswell, Mrs. Dewie Fleming, Mrs. Maggie Renfro and Mrs. Francis Carey.

## CHRIST

Thou Christ a thousand times in Bethlehem be born, If He's not born in thee, thy soul is all forlorn. God's spirit falls on me as dewdrops on a rose If I but, like a rose, my heart to Him disclose. In all eternity no tone can be so sweet As when man's heart with God in union doth beat Whate'er thou lovest man, that, too, lovest God; dust, if thou lovest dust.

## FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Need a ride?  
Call 928-5761  
N. 2nd & RUNNELLS

We wish to express our sincere appreciation for the privilege of serving you. We value both your friendship and your patronage and can think of no more appropriate time than now to tell you so. May the coming year bring the very best of Good Health and Happiness to you and your family.

**EXCLUSIVE BUT NOT EXPENSIVE**  
**BRAGG'S DEPT.**  
**STORE**

**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**EXTENDS A SPECIAL INVITATION TO EVERYONE TO ATTENDED SERVICES WITH THEM**

Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Services	7:00 p.m.

**IF YOU NEED A RIDE CALL 928-4846**

(Our Church Bus Will Be Glad To Pick You Up)  
*Remember that Sunday is the LORD's birthday.*  
See you at church.

**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
5th & RUNNELLS ST.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Fresh from us to you... greetings of the season. We hope the Yule holidays are happy in every way!

**HOHERTZ DAIRY**  
Harold & Chera,  
Albert & Alma,  
Brenda & Tim

**Warbling Merry Christmas** to our many devoted patrons, with thanks.

**L & W Snack Bar Merry Christmas**  
Leta & Kim

**RANCHERS!**

**Swift CATTLE FEEDS**    **Swift MINERALS**    **Swift SUPPLEMENT BLOCKS**

**WE OFFER A VARIETY OF CUBES, PROTEIN BLOCKS, AND MINERALS. YOU MAY SELECT THE ONE TO FIT YOUR SPECIAL NEEDS.**

**PRICE! QUALITY! INTEGRITY!**

**ED'S FEED & SEED**  
MERKEL, TEXAS

**OPEN 24 HOURS**    **OPEN 24 HOURS**

**ALLSUP'S CONVENIENCE STORES**

**OPEN 24 HOURS CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS DAY**

OPEN FOR YOUR SHOPPING CONVENIENCE & NEEDS!

**BORDEN'S BUTTER-MILK** 1/2 GAL. CTR. **79¢**

**CHRISTMAS TREES!** NICE SELECTION & LOW PRICES. BLUE SPRUCE, SCOTCH PINE, AND FIR.

**GT. SIZE BOLD 3 99¢**

**BORDEN'S DIPS AND SOUR CREAM** 2 8 OZ. CTRS. **79¢**

**BORDEN'S LITE LINE ICE CREAM** 1/2 GAL. CTR. **99¢**

**BORDEN'S EGGNOG** QT. CTR. **89¢**

**BORDEN'S WHIPPING CREAM** 3 1/2 PINT CTRS. **\$1**

**SHURFINE MIX OR MATCH PEAS**  
BLACK EYE PEAS  
SPINACH  
FRUIT COCKTAIL  
CORN

**BUY A COKE AND KEEP THE GLASS**  
THREE DIFFERENT KINDS OF GLASSES WHILE THE SUPPLY LASTS!

**3 FOR \$1.00**

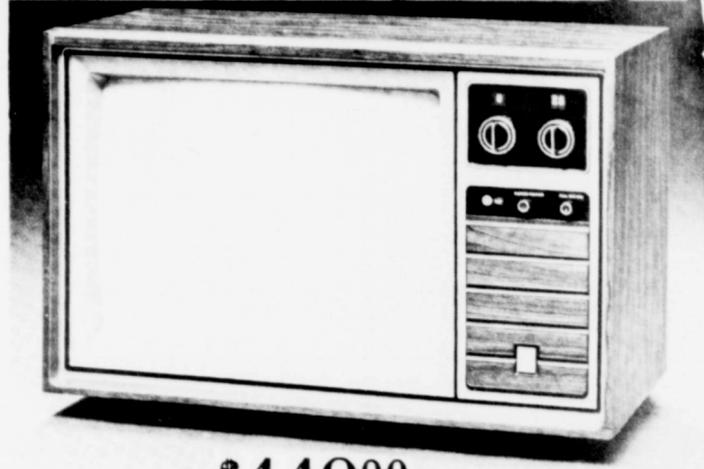
**CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS & CANDY**

**REDUCED PRICE**

**HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS SPECIALS**

INTERSTATE 20 WEST OF THE WYLIE TRUCK TERMINAL

# On a Christmas Merry-Go-Round? SHOP THESE GIFTS

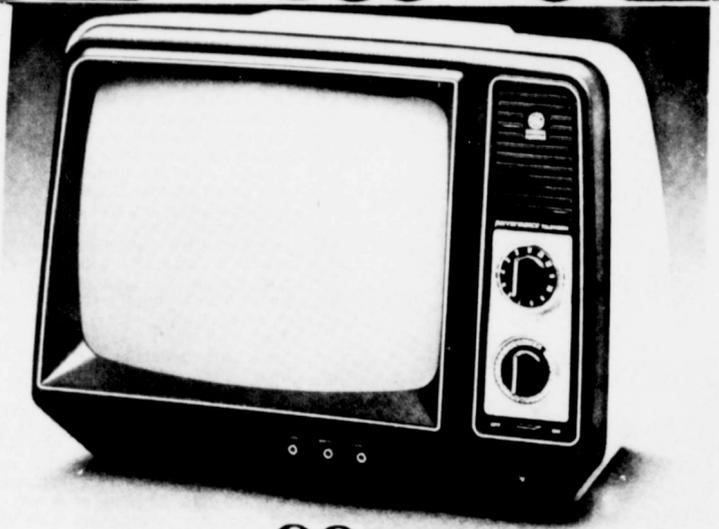


\$449<sup>00</sup>



**VIR "Broadcast Controlled" Color.** The General Electric pioneered system that offers you color actually controlled by the broadcaster's VIR signal. Computer-like circuitry uses this special signal broadcast with many programs to adjust color and tint automatically 60 times a second. No need to fiddle with color or tint knobs. And a new Light Sensor adjusts the picture as room lighting conditions change.

Cabinet: Walnut finish on high impact plastic.

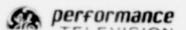


\$99



**100% Solid State Chassis.** With cool-running solid state elements, your set will use less energy and is designed to last longer than a comparable "tube-type" set.

Cabinet: Desert sand finish.



ALL  
NEW  
'78

MODELS



25" DIAGONAL  
**COLOR  
CONSOLE**  
\$649<sup>00</sup>  
MODEL YM9410WD



\$269.00

25" diagonal YM9410WD  
TRANSITIONAL STYLING - walnut finish on hardwood solids and wood composition board. Concealed Casters.

- Color Monitor System
- 100% Solid State Chassis
- Modular Chassis Design
- Black Matrix In-Line Picture Tube
- Custom Picture Control
- Illuminated Channel Numbers
- Sharpness Control
- "Tilt-Out" Control Bin
- Set-And-Forget Volume Control
- Line Voltage Regulator
- Cable-Ready Antenna Connector

10" diagonal AA5326WD  
PORTA COLOR II TV - walnut finish on high impact plastic

- 100% Solid State Chassis
- GE's In-Line Picture Tube
- 70 Position "Click-in" UHF Tuning
- Automatic Frequency Control
- Automatic Color Control
- VHF "Pre-Set" Fine Tuning
- DC Restoration
- VHF Dipole UHF Loop Antennas
- Molded-in Carrying Handle

## IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS GIFT SPECIALS

Now... when every family needs it most!

### GENERAL ELECTRIC FOOD FREEZER SPECIAL!

11.7 cu. ft.  
capacity  
only  
\$299.95



**HELPS CUT FOOD BILLS:**

- Buy meats in bulk—frozen foods on sale—fresh produce in season.
- Freeze home-grown vegetables.
- Reduce shopping trips, save.
- Guard against rising food prices.

Only 28" wide

Model TA12

- 3 refrigerated shelves for fast freezing plus top cold plate
- Bulk storage rack
- Upright takes less floor space than chest—foods easy to see, reach
- Generous door storage



### REFRIGERATOR

TBF 21 R



- Dispenses crushed ice or cubes
- Huge 6.82 cu. ft. freezer
- Stores 10 lbs., about 260 cubes; Automatic icemaker replaces ice as you use it
- Adjustable glass shelves
- Adjustable meat keeper
- Power saver switch can help reduce operating cost

\$799<sup>00</sup>

# PALMER PONTIAC AND GMC



Letters From Trent

DEAR SANTA,  
I love you. I want a ball and a truck.  
Love ROBERT

DEAR SANTA,  
I love you. I want baby that a way, barbie, teddy bear.  
Love, SANDY

DEAR SANTA,  
I want a car set. Look on the back.  
Chester

I love you, St. Nick.  
CHESTER

DEAR SANTA,  
I want a electric train, a race car set. How is Rudolf?  
Love JEFFREY

Letters To Santa Claus

DEAR SANTA,  
I want a box ring and a choo choo train and a bat cave. And I want you to bring my Sissy a talking doll.  
Love RICKY AND SISSY

P.S. I want a diesel truck.

DEAR SANTA,  
How are you reindeer? I want a race car set. I want a ball and truck.  
Love You TODD

DEAR SANTA,  
I would like to get a sugar baby, a see a say, and anything else that you think I need.  
BRIDGETT VAUGHN Rt. 3 Merkel, Texas

DEAR SANTA,  
I want a stable for my Breyer horses. I also want the Mustang family. I want a Kick and Go.  
Love, TEENA TAYLOR

DEAR SANTA CLAUS,  
I want a tanker truck that can really carry water and a Dallas Cowboy football helmet. And a Dallas Cowboy football shirt that can go with some shoulder pads and a Nylint 18 wheeler. If you want to you can bring me a bicycle and nothing else.  
Love CHAD PACK

Letters From Merkel

DEAR SANTA,  
Bring me a Holly Hobbie stove. Bring me some roller skates. I also want a doll. Merry Christmas to all and to all good night. Merry Christmas Rudolf. I love you Rudolf and Santa and all the other reindeer.  
Love JILL PACK Merkel, Texas

DEAR SANTA,  
I want stretch monster, a model airplane, a racing track, and an adventure buggy. Thank you for the telephone call.  
Love SHAE TAYLOR

P.S. We have been very good. Even my mother says we've been good.  
Love CHRIS AND DELAYNE PACK

**Holy Night**  
We raise our voices in songs of praise and thanks.  
Cyrus & Ethel  
Cyrus Pee Insurance

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
Celebrating the time of Santa, of Joy, of Giving! We send you sparkling wishes and sincere appreciation.  
J.L. & Polly Fisher  
Merkel Auto Parts

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
Hanging our holiday stocking for Santa, and wishing you the best Christmas ever!  
KBGG

# CHRISTMAS GIFTS?

# WE'VE GOT 'EM ALL

## Great Gifts

**GIFTS OF LEATHER**

**PRINCE GARDNER**

Gifts of Leather a gift that Lasts. Choose From our Large Selection of:

- Men & Women Billfolds
- Key Chains
- Cigarette Cases
- Change Purses
- Truckers Billfolds
- Check Secretaries
- Credit Card Billfolds

Plus travel cases & other Rich Soft Leather Gifts in Beautiful Colors

**SAV-X**  
A SUPER DRUG STORE AND MORE.

**JEWELRY & PEN SETS**

**CROSS**  
SINCE 1848

Great Gifts for Anyone On Your Christmas List

Pen & Pencils Separate or in Sets. Choose From 14K Gold or Lustrous Chrome

**750 and up**

**PERSONAL APPLIANCES**

**CLAIROL son of a gun**

The Professional Lightweight Dryer. 200 watts of power packed into only 11.3 lbs. Extra wide motor provides greater airflow. Comes with foldable table stand and convenient travel case.

**CLAIROL 20**  
Instant Hairsetter by Clairol. 20 exclusive kindness rollers to help prevent tangling. Lightweight compact case. Model C-200. 2000 W.

**THE SHOWER MASSAGE**  
by Wizer-Fix

A gift they'll enjoy all year long.

SM-2 Chrome Finish Wall Mount **1788** (19.97 Value)

SM-3 Deluxe hand held & stationary model **2788** (31.77 Value)

**Lighted Mirror**  
by General Electric. Wall mounting for shaving. Trim ring or hold by convenient handle.

**1488** (16.99 Value)

**WINDMERE Kwik Curling Iron**  
WB-11 **388**

**MIST WONDER, BAR THE BOSS**  
Hair dryer, 1000 W **999**

**FOR THE WOMEN IN YOUR LIFE FROM REVLON**

**Charlie**  
Concentrated Cologne Spray 1 1/2 oz. & Cologne 2 1/2 oz. **900**

**INTIMATE**  
For The Very delicate Woman

Perfume 4 oz. **275**

Candles **750**

Perfume 1 oz. **400**

Concentrated Cologne Spray 1/2 oz. **400**

**Jontue**  
For The Young Romantic Woman

Cologne 1 1/2 oz. & Body Silk 2 oz. **700**

Candles **850**

Shaker Talc 3 oz. **500**

**JEWELRY**

Large Selection of A Special Purchase **25% off**  
3:00 to 8:00 Jewelry

**CARDS & CANDY**

Christmas Cards

American Greetings  
True Excellence is an American Tradition.

Pamphlet's **Millionaires**  
MAKE IT A CHRISTMAS.

Everybody loves Millionaires! From Texas. Luscious honey salt caramel loaded with Texas Pecans and all covered with a thick coat of pure Milk Chocolate. Give a gift everyone can enjoy. Pamphlet's Millionaires.

**10% OFF**

**WATCHES**

**TIMEX WATCHES**

Give the perfect gift from our large selection of watches.

**TRADITIONAL Watches**

- Electric
- Quartz
- Day Date
- Gold
- Chrome

**1295, 5995**

**SNOOPY & FRIENDS**

**1495 up**

**COLOR FLICKS**

TRANSFORMS! Seconds into beautiful colors with rotating wheel of color dial.

**1695**

**LCD Constant Digital Readout**

Watches • Marathon • 55Q • Solid State

**2795, 5495**

**PRINCE MATCHABELLI**

**Aviance**  
All Women Deserve An Aviance Night

4 oz. Cologne **750**

**Wind Song**  
For The Woman That Stays On Your Mind

Spray Cologne & Perfume **1350**

**Touch Up Cologne** **450**

**BRACHS HOLIDAY MIX**

Hard Filled Candies 18 oz. Bag **48c**  
That Taste as good as they look

**TOYS**

**Sesame Street Portable Radios**

- Big Bird
- Bert & Ernie
- Oscar The Grouch
- Cookie Monster

**1099**

**Corning Ware**

**20% OFF**

Gift Sets From Many Patterns Such As Corn Flower & Spice of Life

Complete Selection of Covered Soupskins, skillets, pan sets, hot dishes, heaters & baking dishes.

**VISIT SANTA**  
12-4 PM

Wed. 21st-S. 14th & Barrow  
Thurs. 22nd-N. 12th & Grape  
Fri. 23rd-N. 12th & Mockingbird

Get Your Picture Taken with SANTA for ONLY \$1.50 With \$5 Purchase

**C.B. Base Station & Am Radio**

Monitors All 40 Channels. Transmits on channel 14. Sends Morse Code.

Includes Microphone with 3 H. cord.

**2599**

**Bike C.B.**

Transceiver with AM Radio. A Mobile Radio That's Fun to Transceive Everywhere!

**2599**

**Corning Ware**

Gift Sets From Many Patterns Such As Corn Flower & Spice of Life

Complete Selection of Covered Soupskins, skillets, pan sets, hot dishes, heaters & baking dishes.

**SAV-X DRUG**

**A SUPER GIFT STORE AND MORE**

**CLOCK ALARM**

**VALUE FEATURED Digital Alarm**

Digital Alarm Clock With Lighted Dial and Snooze-Alarm

**1249**

NO. S142-412

• S. 14th & Barrow  
• N. 12th & Grape  
• N. 12th & Mockingbird  
• S. 7th & Leggett  
• 1886 Pine

• Sweetwater 1008 E. Broadway  
• Breckenridge 500 W. Walker  
• Brownwood 1414 Austin Ave.  
• Stamford 612 E. Hamilton

## Cemetary Donations

The Merkel Cemetery "Christmas Memorials" are as follows:  
 Nora M. Hendrix  
 Frank and Gladys Breaux in memory of Leroy Easton  
 Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Wozencraft  
 Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Bowen in memory of Pete Petty  
 Fred F. and Naomi W. Starbuck, PCM  
 Lewis H. Tucker  
 Ella Neeb  
 Lena Reeder  
 George and Wanda Waldon  
 Robert F. Reed  
 Truett and Leota Patterson in memory of Nora Foster  
 Charlotte C. Turner in memory of Ike D. Turner  
 Mrs. M.D. Sewell in memory of Mrs. Addie Robertson  
 Mr. and Mrs. C.M. Chaney  
 Luna W. Johnston in memory of loved ones  
 Mr. and Mrs. W.W. Lofland, Jr. in memory of the Case family

Van and Lynn McSpadden  
 Irene Strawn  
 The Boyd Family in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Fenton Boyd  
 J. D. Wotcher  
 Jessie S. Howerton in memory of Nora Foster  
 The Sam Martins in memory of friends  
 Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Rutherford in memory of Altha Reynolds  
 Mrs. Fritz Hale  
 Geo. T. Groene  
 Mr. and Mrs. Edward M. Osner  
 Mrs. D. S. Richardson in memory of Pinky Cypert, David Richardson, and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Boaz  
 Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Irvin  
 Mr. and Mrs. Boyce R. Vancil  
 Clark Munday  
 Olive E. Herron  
 Alice Glenn Ricks  
 Estate of H. H. Toombs  
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Caro  
 Russell in memory of Mrs. Frank Allyn  
 Mrs. Morris Beasley  
 Mrs. D. H. Thomas in

memory of "My Family"  
 Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Windham in memory of Pinky Cypert  
 Mr. and Mrs. Don Dudley  
 Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Meek  
 Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Fulton in memory of Gene and Bertie Patterson  
 Cloy Lyles  
 Alice Bigham in memory of Mrs. Frank Allyn  
 Etta D. Martin  
 Mrs. Ruby E. Hinson  
 Mr. and Mrs. John J. Rister  
 Mrs. Gordon Howell in memory of Gordon Howell  
 Lois Beasley in memory of Pinky Cypert  
 Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Wozencraft in memory of Clemo Jones

Support  
 Your  
 Local  
 P. T. O.



Mr. & Mrs. Jack Benningfield  
 50th Wedding Anniversary to be Celebrated

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Benningfield will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Sunday, Dec. 25th. The reception will be

held at the Noodle Community Center from 3-5. All friends are invited to attend. They have lived in the community for the fifty years, and were married in Jones county.

### Gleaner's Christmas Dinner

The Gleaners Sunday School Class of the First United Methodist Church met December 14 in the Fellowship Hall at the church for a covered dish Christmas dinner.

Mrs. Allen Forbis gave the prayer of Thanks to the eighteen members and guests seated at the table decorated with holly.

A number of Christmas songs were sung to the accompaniment of Mrs. T. K. Anderson and Mrs. O. R. Doughs leading. Mrs. John Shannon gave the devotion, "Thanks to God for His Unspeakable Gift." Rev. Forbis gave the prayer.

From a beautiful tree gifts were passed to all present.

The "apron" was opened and a generous gift to the Methodist Home for Children in Waco was presented to Rev. Forbis from the class.

Those present were Rev. Forbis and Mesdmes, Forbis, Douglas, Dee Grimes, Anderson, Hattie Richards, Willie Pee, Illa Mae McLean, Anna Dunn, Viola Ensminger, Merle Harwell, Etta McWilliams, Pet Touchstone, Georgia Zimmerman, Lola Stockbridge, Ethel Cox, Jessie Shannon, and Misses Bessie Riedenback, and Mabel McRee.

## Compere H.D. Club News

Mr. and Mrs. Don Adair entertained Compere Club members and visitors on Friday evening December 9 with a covered dish supper in their home in Merkel. After a delicious meal was served to them, the group gathered around a beautiful Christmas tree to exchange gifts and

enjoy an evening of fellowship.

Those attending were: Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Dillard, Mr. and Mrs. David Chancey and Stacy, Mmes: Clyde Mims, Hugh Taylor, Ab Hunter, Clyde Chancey, Dewey Ramsey, Keevey Ramsey and Mr. and Mrs. Don Adair and Scott.

**EVERYTHING**  
**IN STOCK**  
**25%**  
**OFF**  
**EMMA'S CLOTHES**  
**131 KENT CLOSET 928-5100**

**BEST BUY**  
**IN TOWN!**  
**IT'S**



## BROASTED CHICKEN

A heaping bucketfull feeds **4** hungry people for only **3<sup>99</sup>**



**CARSON'S**  
**SUPERMARKET**  
**PHONE 928-5231**



*Happy Holidays*

"Wishing All Of Our Many Friends In And Around Merkel The Very Best Of Everything During This Holiday Season And For The New Year.

Signed,  
*Esther And Sylvan Mellinger*  
*Rosa Lee And Meyer Mellinger*



May you share the twinkle in Santa's eyes, the joy of his smile, with those you love. Our thanks.

**Barnett's Barber Shop**

## It's Christmas

Love more deeply,  
 Live more fully,  
 Laugh more happily,  
 because it's simply,  
 joyfully, completely,  
**CHRISTMAS!**  
 Thanks to all.

**Max Murrell**  
**Chevrolet**

## CHRISTMAS Love

May His ever-present love be a source of special joy to you. We rejoice and say thanks.



**Lemens Butane**  
**And Propane**  
**Clyde And Merkel**

**HO HO!**  
*it's Christmas*

May the night before Christmas  
 And all the year through  
 Be happy and bright  
 And enchanted for you!

Warm wishes and thanks to you and your dear ones.

**Members, Directors, & Employees Of**  
**Taylor Electric Co-Operative**

**Ella McArthur Dies In Dallas**

MERKEL - Ella Beatrice Simpson McArthur, 49, of Dallas and sister of a Merkel woman, died at 2:30 a.m. Tuesday in a Dallas hospital after a lengthy illness. Services were held at 2p.m. Thursday at the Starbuck Funeral Home Chapel. Larry Gill, minister of the Church of Christ, officiated. Burial was in the Rose Hill Cemetery. Born Dec. 20, 1927, in Abilene, she married James McArthur June 30, 1945 in San Antonio. They lived in Spur and Lubbock prior to moving to Dallas in 1973. Survivors include her husband; three sons, Guy Mac of Spur, Jesse and Thomas, both of Lubbock; a brother, I.D. Simpson Jr. of Praireveil, La.; Two sisters, Mrs. William (Mary) Barry of Overland Park, Kan., and Mrs. Jim (Loessa) Smith of Merkel; and two grandchildren. A son, Tim, died March 1, 1973. Pallbearers were Waymon Adcock, L.M. Ewing, Benny Rogers, Frank Breau, Robert Campbell and Vessie Justice.



**merry merry Christmas**  
May your pear tree bear fruits of Love, Health and Happiness.  
**Syble's Beauty Nook**

**Merkel and Tye School News**

School is dismissed for the Christmas Holidays. Classes will resume January 3rd, Tuesday. Hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

**Basketball Schedule:**  
High School:  
Dec. 21, 22, 23 A.C.H.S. Tourney There Boys A, Girls delete above

Dec. 21, 22, 23 A.C.H.S. Tourney there Boys A Girls A Dec. 30 A.C.H.S. There Girls A 5:00 Boys A&B Middle School Jan. 2nd game has been canceled.

**Merkel Middle School News:**  
All of the doors have been decorated for the Christmas Season. The first place winner was Mrs. Hick's room. The second place winner was Mrs. Bratcher's room and the third place was Mrs. Bright's room.

The doors were judged on originality, artistic appearance, and the theme of Christmas. The "Christmas Door Decoration" Contest was sponsored by the Student Council of Merkel Middle School.

**Tye Elementary School News**  
Mrs. Paige's Kindergarten is busy, busy, working on their part of our annual Christmas Program. Everyone is excited with the hopes Ole Santa will be at our program too. Getting twenty-six boys and girls to sing Jingle Bells on the stage and ring the sleigh bells at the same time can cause quite an exciting day. Everyone is taking part in the program and it looks like a Academy Award performance will be given by all. This will be a big send off for our Christmas holidays.

Mrs. VanWinkle and her resource aide Mrs. Barnett have been busy with the decorations for the stage and they have done a beautiful job. The stage has the appearance of a hugh beautiful Christmas Card. We hope all will come to see it.

Oh the weeks before Christmas and all through the room. Every creature was stirring with a band and a boom! Each child was excited As much as could be But the teachers decided much work they would see. We tried and we tried but with work no avail-- The kids wanted Santa to come without fail. The program we practiced, and practiced still more And hoped that you liked it, even more than before. Soon school will be out for some rest and some play-- Have a Big Merry Christmas and A Nice Happy Day--

from Tye Children and Teachers



The belief that ostriches hide from enemies by burying their heads in the sand is a myth.

Mrs. Coke's second grade class has been getting into the Christmas spirit. We strung popcorn for our tree; for some of us, that was the first time to string popcorn. We also made pretty Christmas ornaments for our P.T.O. Christmas program. Our room is all decorated, and we have even hung our stockings for Santa Claus!!!



**XMAS TREES REDUCED 25% OFF ON XMAS DECORATIONS**

**COCA COLA & SEVEN UP 64 OZ 79c**  
**SLICED SLAB BACON LB 89c**  
**BROWN N SERVE ROLLS 39c OR 3 FOR \$1.00**  
**1 1/2 LOAF LG. BREAD 39c OR 3 FOR \$1.00**

**TIMEX WATCHES THEY MAKE NICE GIFTS**

**RAW PEANUTS LB 69c**  
**ROASTED PEANUTS LB 79c**  
**FROZEN STRAWBERRIES 10 OZ 39c**  
**FRESH ORANGES, APPLES, GRAPEFRUIT, TANGERINES, & BANANAS**  
**POTATOES 10 LB BAG 79c**  
**HOT HOUSE TOMATOES LB 59c**

**WE WILL BE OPEN XMAS DAY - 8 A.M. TO 1 P.M. NINTH STREET GROCERY 1207 S. 9th**

**Abilene Savings Offers Two Retirement Accounts That You Can Build With Tax-Deductible Income.**

If you are self-employed, or if you work for someone else and you are not now covered by a pension plan, you can now have your own government approved, tax-sheltered retirement plan.

**1. The Individual Retirement Account**

All of your retirement savings are deductible up to \$1,500 per year or 15% of your income, whichever is less. The ideal retirement account if you work for someone else. Also, you can now set up a non-working spouse account which will allow you to contribute an additional \$250 for a maximum of \$1,750.

**2. The Keogh (Key-O) Account**

The self-employed or unincorporated business owner can now set aside up to \$7,500 per year or 15% of income, whichever is less.

**Both Individual Retirement Accounts and Keogh Retirement Accounts:**

- Earn tax-free interest compounded daily.
- Automatically qualify as acceptable IRS retirement plans.
- Allow you many different payment options that you may select according to your needs.



**Abilene Savings**  
We'll Help You Find A Way

P.O. Box 444/301 Edwards Avenue/Merkel, Texas 79536/(915) 928-4702  
Member Southwestern Group Financial, Inc. Member FSLIC

**A PRAYER**  
Let us hold Christmas close to our hearts. Thanks to all.



**Crawford's**

**Christmas Wishes**

Let there be love at Christmas when all the world is warm and bright with dreams. In the hushed landscape of this glorious season, we send tidings of comfort and joy and continuing thanks to all!



**THE EMPLOYEES OF THE COUNTRY CLUB OF MERKEL WISH OUR MEMBERS AND GOOD NEIGHBORS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**Merry Christmas**



**FROM THE MERKEL MAIL STAFF GREETINGS**

We're delivering right to your door -- all the best Christmas wishes! For a happy, healthy, peaceful holiday! To our kind customers -- warm appreciation.

- Steve & Kay Lankam  
Martha Sue Justice  
Tommy Jones  
Susy Riser  
Dale Hammond  
Lillian Pack  
Becki Pack  
Cathy Pack  
Milly Bright

**Merry Christmas FEASTING**

and Happy **SAVINGS** too!



Simple as **Play**

**A B C D**

AND WIN UP TO \$100.00

12 OZ CAN  
**Dr. PEPPER**  
DIET OR REG.

6 PACK **98c**

GLADIOLA  
**FLOUR**  
5 LB BAG **55c**

CHURN GOLD  
**OLEO**  
SOFT LB TUB **49c**

KRAFTS MARSHMALLOW  
**CREAM**  
7 OZ JAR **43c**

TOWIE STUFFED  
**OLIVES**  
5 OZ JAR **79c**

FRESH  
**PORK ROAST**  
LEAN POUND **89c**

HORMEL WRANGLER  
**SAUSAGE**  
HORMEL DAY CURED SHANK-EN OR WHOLE LB **\$1.09**

**HAMS**  
OR WHOLE LB **\$1.39**

**BACON**  
GOOCH BR LB **\$1.29**

**ROAST BEEF**  
CHOICE BEEF RUMP LB **98c**

FRESH  
**GROUND BEEF**  
LB **59c**

KRAFTS-JET-MINATURE  
**MARSHMALLOW**  
10 OZ **35c**

KRAFTS WHITE  
**SYRUP**  
PINT **53c**

BAKERS ANGEL FLAKE  
**COCOANUT**  
3 1/2 OZ CAN **49c**

PHILADELPHIA  
**CREAM CHEESE**  
8 OZ **59c**

RIVAL-SLOWCOOKER  
**CROCK POT**  
3 1/2 QT SIZE **\$12.95**

OCEAN SPRAY 300  
**Cranberry SAUCE**  
CAN **39c**

DEL MONTE 303  
**PUMPKIN**  
2 FOR **59c**

DEL MONTE 1 1/4 ASST.  
**PINEAPPLE**  
2 FOR **79c**

DEL MONTE 303  
**Sliced CARROTS**  
2 FOR **53c**

DEL MONTE 303 WHOLE  
**Green BEANS**  
2 FOR **73c**

DEL MONTE 303 C. S.  
**Golden CORN**  
2 FOR **59c**

DEL MONTE 46 OZ  
**TOMATO Juice**  
CAN **55c**

DEL MONTE 303  
**Fruitcocktail**  
CAN **39c**

DELMONTE 15 OZ SWEET  
**Cucumber CHIPS**  
15 OZ **59c**

GOLDBAND  
**TURKEY**  
Don't Take a Chance - TAKE a CHOICE  
10-TO-16 LBS

DIAMOND HEAVY  
**PLATES**  
40 CT **\$1.19**

BORDENS 9 OZ  
**1/2 MOON CHEESE**  
98c

BAMA 18 OZ PRESERVES  
**STRAWBERRY**  
JAR **83c**

NABISCO 16 OZ  
**RITZS CRACKERS**  
79c

KING  
**DAWN**  
BOT. **98c**

GIANT  
**CHEER**  
BOX **\$1.09**

1 LIMIT  
**DASH**  
BOX **\$2.09**

LIQUID  
**MAALOX**  
12 OZ **\$1.69**

**CHEESE**  
LB **\$1.69**

WRIGLEYS  
**GUM**  
17 STICK 3 PKGS **89c**

PRIZE VALUE	NUMBER OF PRIZES	ODDS FOR ONE VISIT	ODDS FOR 5 VISITS	ODDS FOR 10 VISITS
\$100.00	7	3843	772	384
\$ 10.00	18	1494	298	149
\$ 5.00	26	1034	206	103
\$ 50.00 in Trade Stamps	102	263	52	26

BORDEN-GANDY-FOREMOST  
**CREAM**  
WHIPPING - SOUR  
3 1/2 PINTS FOR **\$1.00**

FOLGERS  
**COFFEE**  
LB CAN **\$2.49**  
1 LIMIT  
WITH \*10% IN TRADE OR MORE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

**FROZEN FOODS**

BIRDSEYE  
**COOL WHIP**  
9 OZ TUB **59c**

TROPHY 10 OZ  
**Strawberries**  
CTN **29c**

OLE SOUTH  
**PIESHELLS**  
PKG **29c**

PEPPERIDGE FARM  
**CAKES**  
3 LAYER EACH **\$1.19**

REYNOLDS 25 FT 18 INCH  
**FOIL WRAP**  
ROLL **69c**

KRAFTS  
**MAYONNAISE**  
1/2 JAR **98c**

CREAMY  
**CRISCO**  
3 LB CAN **\$1.49**

ASSORTED  
**JELLO**  
3 OZ BOX 3 FOR **49c**

DUNCAN HINES  
**CAKE MIX**  
ASST. BOX **59c**

I.G. DAIRY FRESH  
**HOMO MILK**  
GAL JUG **\$1.63**

I.G. DAIRY FRESH  
**LOWFAT MILK**  
GAL JUG **\$1.53**

I.G. DAIRY FRESH  
**BUTTER MILK**  
1/2 GAL CRTN **79c**

**ORANGES**



CALIFORNIA  
NAVEL  
LB **29c**

WE GIVE GIFT BOND STAMPS  
Double on Wednesday with \$5.00 or more

WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS  
**CARSON'S SUPER MARKET**  
MERKEL TEXAS  
FRESH VEGETABLES  
FREE DELIVERY MON-WED-FRI  
BEST MEATS IN TOWN